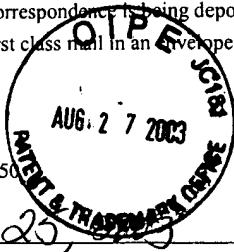


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 017242-011200US

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



On August 25, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Connie Harris

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Sheila Littlehorn

Application No.: 10/627,542

Filed: July 25, 2003

For: NECK RING WITH
DETACHABLE BIB

Examiner:

Art Unit:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no

representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

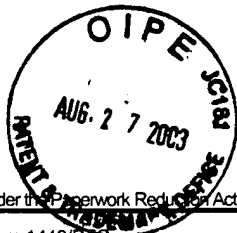
Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement.

However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Darin J. Gibby
Reg. No. 38,464

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (303) 571-4000
Fax: (303) 571-4321
DJG/cl
60019936 v1



PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Page

1

of

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/627,542

Filing Date

July 25, 2003

First Named Inventor

Sheila Littlehorn

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

017242-011200US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-1,898,272	Feb 1933	Stern	
	AB	US-2,078,022	Apr 1937	Roemer	
	AC	US-2,379,340	Jun 1945	Corbett	
	AD	US-3,378,948	Apr 1968	Gervaise	
	AE	US-3,426,372	Feb 1969	Enelow	
	AF	US-3,608,964	Sep 1971	Thad J. Earl	
	AG	US-3,840,918	Oct 1974	Robert C. Shave	
	AH	US-4,197,604	Apr 1980	Nakamura	
	AI	US-4,236,264	Dec 1980	Britzman	
	AJ	US-4,731,890	Mar 1988	Roberts	
	AK	US-4,914,765	Apr 1990	Smith	
	AL	US-5,154,649	Oct 1992	Pender	
	AM	US-5,193,235	Mar 1993	Kircher	
	AN	US-5,207,791	May 1992	Scherbarth	
	AO	US-5,261,134	Nov 1993	Matthews	
	AP	US-5,519,906	May 1996	Fanto-Chan	
	AQ	US-5,546,620	Aug 1996	Matthews	
	AR	US-5,572,753	Nov 1996	Peter A. Ruscitto	
	AS	US-5,581,833	Dec 1996	Zenoff	
	AT	US-5,661,861	Sep 1997	Matthews	
	AU	US-5,666,665	Sep 1997	Julie Cooper Morgado	
	AV	US-5,675,853	Oct 1997	Danny L. Linge	
	AW	US-6,038,720	Mar 2000	Matthews et al.	
	AX	US-6,055,687	May 2000	Matthews	
	AY	US-6,119,873	Sep 2000	Matthews	
	AZ	US-6,279,185	Aug 2001	Matthews	
	BA	US-6,412,128	Jul 2002	Matthews	
	BB	US-6,434,770	Aug 2002	Matthews Brown	
	BC	US-6,523,200	Feb 2003	Brown	
	BD	US-6,532,612	Mar 2003	Matthews Brown	
	BE	US-			

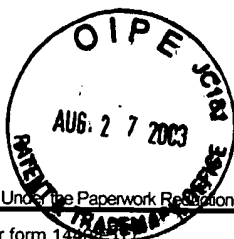
Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

¹ EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

² Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³ Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ⁴ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁷ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.



PTO/SB/08A (04-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Page

2

of

Complete if Known

Application Number

10/627,542

Filing Date

July 25, 2003

First Named Inventor

Sheila Littlehorn

Art Unit

Examiner Name

Attorney Docket Number

017242-011200US

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BF	PCT	WO 94/09689	May 1994			<input type="checkbox"/>
	BG	U.K.	1508809	Apr 1978			<input type="checkbox"/>
	BH	France	2379268	Sep 1978			<input type="checkbox"/>
	BI						<input type="checkbox"/>
	BJ						<input type="checkbox"/>
	BK						<input type="checkbox"/>
	BL						<input type="checkbox"/>
	BM						<input type="checkbox"/>

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.